

REMARKS

As a result of the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended and claims 3 and 4 have been canceled. The amendments are supported by the original specification, including the figures, and thus do not introduce new matter. In particular, the amendments to claim 1 are supported by, for example, originally filed claim 4 and page 7, lines 23 to 29, of the originally filed specification. Reconsideration and passage of all pending claims to issue is respectfully requested.

With this response, Applicant encloses a substitute form 1449/PTO with a Statement of Basis for Relevance of Foreign Language Documents, along with the fee of \$180.00 for submission thereof. Consideration of the references cited therein is respectfully requested.

Turning to the Office Action, all pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Reeves (4468619). Applicant asserts, however, that the claims as now amended overcome the prior art of record.

In particular, Reeves pertains to a position detector located at the outside of the pipe and being stationary with respect to the pipe. This is a major difference between Reeves and the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1-2 and 8-9 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that all pending claims be passed to issue. In addition, Applicant encloses a certified copy of the Priority Document which has a German number 103 09 142.4. Should the Examiner wish to discuss this further, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,
FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

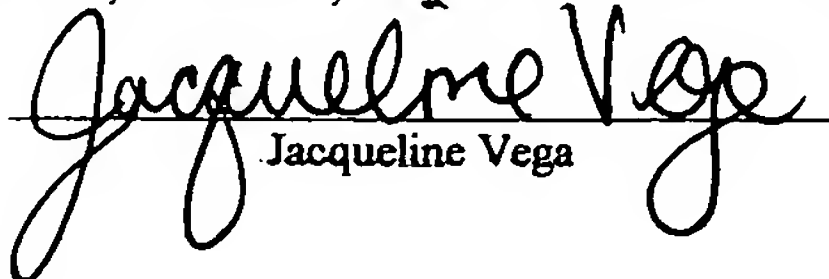


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Dated: January 9, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 9, 2006.


Jacqueline Vega